The Elder Pugin.—In the remarks in your leader of the 25th ult. upon the loss which the profession has sustained by the death of Mr. A. Welby Pugin, you have alluded to his father as a Romanist. That he was instructed in the Roman Catholic faith in early life is not improbable, but having been resident with him for five years during my articleship, I can certainly bear witness that he did not attend the rites of that church. Though not a communicant of the Anglican Church, he occasionally attended her services and adopted her doctrines, and spoke unfavourably of the Church of Rome. If the elder Pugin lacked religious zeal, it was not wanting in his wife, who was one of the most enthusiastic followers of the late Mr. Irving, and a most determined opponent of Romanism under any form. Enthusiasm was the essence of A. Welby Pugin's nature, but it had no sympathy with his mother's tastes, and was soon engaged in other exciting objects which have been well described by Mr. T. Bury. Many other remarkable incidents in his eventful life might be added to that faithful sketch, but my simple purpose in these lines is to give my impression as to the elder Pugin's religion. I cannot, however, close these remarks without an expression of regret that so great a genius should be taken from us: he was great in everything he undertook, and his power of mastering any subject was truly surprising: being much associated with him in early years, and having accompanied him alone in many of his sketching excursions (when he assisted his father), I had good opportunities of observing the astonishing qualities which will place his name amongst those of the greatest men of this age.—Ben. Ferrey.

Principles of Decorative Art.—We perceive that a new feature has been introduced into the department of practical art, in Marlborough House, in the shape of large sheets, to be hung in various parts of the ſtudio, containing the following excellent definitions of the principles of decorative art, as applied to metal works, pottery, and plastic forms generally:—"The form should be most carefully adapted to use; being studied for elegance and beauty of line as well as for capacity, strength, mobility," &c. "In ornamenting the construction, care should be taken to preserve the general form, and keep the decoration subservient to it, by low relief or otherwise: the ornament should be so arranged as to enhance by its lines the symmetry of the original form, and assist its constructive strength." "If arabesques, or figures in the round, are used, they should arise out of the ornamental and constructive forms, and not be merely applied." "All projecting parts should have careful consideration, to render them as little liable to injury as is consistent with their purpose." "It must ever be remembered that repose is required to give value to ornament, which in itself is secondary, and not principal."

Agricultural Machinery.—It is the duty of journalists to place before their readers whatever facts may conduce to the general welfare. We think we are fulfilling this duty in directing our readers' attention to a scheme propounded by Colonel Cartwright, at the recent agricultural dinner at Northampton. The colonel has devised a plan for a parochial district association for the purpose of procuring improved agricultural implements, and thus to save the expense of the large holder, and to place them within reach of the smallest. We believe the leading feature of the scheme is to provide for each parish or district a steam thrashing machine, a winnowing machine, a reaping machine, drills, and, if need be, a tile-making machine, draining plough, &c. &c. The mode of raising the requisite capital is to be by contribution from each shareholder, levied in proportion to the size of his farm. It is calculated that by this means, at an outlay scarcely greater than would be required *for one year's use* of these implements, every proprietor of this joint stock would have it in his power to avail himself of any machinery he might want. Some difficulties there would no doubt be. For instance, how is priority of use to be settled? It would often happen that the same machine would be wanted in several places at once. In times when farmers are told so emphatically (and even by those to whom they looked for relief), to "*trust to themselves*," every mode of cheapening labour must necessarily be adopted; and if Colonel Cartwright's cheap mode of cheapening labour is practicable, we think the sooner some steps are taken the better.—*Leicester Advertiser.*

Large Deposit of Graphite.—At St. John's, New Brunswick, near the new suspension-bridge over the St. John's River, a very extensive deposit of graphite has been opened. The vein or bed is nearly vertical, and inclosed between beds of highly metamorphic schists. The graphite bed has been explored by a gallery over 100 feet, and by cross-cuts at right angles to this some 20 or more feet. All these are in the graphite mass, and, of course, the floor and roof of the levels are of the same mineral. The graphite is not of very superior quality, though portions of it are pure. It has a foliated structure. Iron pyrites is abundantly diffused in it. The chief economical use made of it has been in facing the sand moulds for iron castings. Some of the finer parts are also used to manufacture pencils. Many hundred tons have already been taken out. The vein reappears on the opposite side of the St. John's River, and on the side now opened it has been traced over a mile. The position of the deposit, in conformable metamorphic schists, suggests the conjecture that it may represent a former coal bed.

The "Diggins Directory."—A curiosity in its way, with the Melbourne and Forest Creek, Victoria, postmarks on it, has been sent us direct from the Australian "diggins" (along with a snug little nest of "nuggets," like the golden goose's eggs, we *might* have had occasion to say, but as yet we *haven't*). "Bryce Ross's Diggins' Directory," printed by him at his "Agency," and "Herald's Office," *on* the diggins, consists of a single sheet, with an ornamental border, and contains references to the chief "stores" and "tent parties" at "Golden Gully," "Gully Flat," and other choice localities in the "Diggin" districts of "Forest Creek," "Fryer's Creek," "Bendigo," &c. &c. at Victoria. Besides miners' tents and general stores, the principal special stores named in this interesting memento of a semi-barbarous state of society, are eating-houses, butcheries, bakeries, and smithies. We are pleased to find amongst them, too, a "teetotal booth:" we hope it is always filled to overflowing. Surgeons seem to be the chief professional men amongst the miners: we observe no trace of lawyers *as yet*. "Wakefield, hair-dresser," betokens something like a rising respect to appearances. There is an "Argus Office," no less than a "Herald's." The "Commissioner's Tent," is a grand centre and guide to collateral establishments in each district.

"The Canadian Journal."—We have from Toronto, under this name, a "Repertory of Industry, Science, and Art, and a Record of the Proceedings of the Canadian Institute,"* which promises to be well conducted. The Canadian Institute, when first proposed in 1849, was to be composed mainly of surveyors, engineers, and architects; but ultimately its professional character was changed to one of general description, and a royal charter of incorporation was obtained in November, 1851.

Meeting of the Norfolk Archæological Society.—The annual excursion of this Society took place on Thursday, in week before last. Buckenham, with its castle built by William de Albini; Harling, with its church and monuments; and Attleborough, of historic renown, offered many features, on which papers were read by members of the society. East Harling church was the first spot visited, and Mr. Harrod read a paper on various objects of interest in East Harling church. Mr. Manning also read a paper on a monument in the south aisle of the church. The company then proceeded to Banham church, and Buckenham castle, when a paper respecting the latter was read by Mr. Harrod. The church of New Buckenham, Besthorpe church, and Attleborough church were successively inspected, and a party of members then adjourned to the New Inn to dinner, where Sir T. B. Beevor occupied the chair.

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* Published by Hugh Scobie, Toronto.

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TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"*To purify Sewage-water.*"—A correspondent wants to know the most simple method of purifying sewage-water, to render it clear and pure in taste.

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"*Books and Addresses.*"—We have not time to point out books or find addresses.

NOTICE.—All communications respecting advertisements should be addressed to the "Publisher," and not to the "Editor:" all other communications should be addressed to the Editor, and not to the Publisher.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

ON the 24th of September, 1850, died suddenly at New Orleans, ROBERT DUVAL, Civil Engineer, [illegible] in the 31st year of his age. This announcement has been long deferred from its certainty being unable to be obtained till the present time.

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